

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Walker, John
[Asst. keeper
Dept. of Coins + Medals]

1933-1937

British Museum
London, England]



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.

March 16th 1933.

Dear Sir;

As I am at present engaged on a new British Museum Catalogue of Arabic Coins I should be glad of your assistance in sending me casts of new varieties you may have in your collection. To begin with I am at the moment concentrating on the Early Copper Coins of the Umayyad and Abbasid Caliphs and Governors, so whatever casts you can send me of new and unpublished types will be of great assistance to me.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours very sincerely,
John Walker.
Assistant-Keeper.

March 29, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
Assistant-Keeper
Department of Coins and Medals
British Museum
London, W. C. England.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of March 16th to Mr. Wood has been received. As Mr. Wood is away from the museum for several weeks it will not be possible for him attend to your request at the present time but your letter will be referred to him immediately upon his return.

Very truly yours,

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

May 9, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
British Museum
London, W.C. England.

Dear Sir:

Your letter came while I was laid up in the hospital, hence the delay in answering. I am gradually getting back to work and this is the first chance that I have had to answer your letter. You have started off, as you undoubtedly know, with a hard proposition. We have about 500 copper coins of the Umayyads and Abbasids, including many duplicates showing different parts of the die or different sizes and weights. A large number of these I have never been able to definitely attribute and have simply put them loose in several trays. Most of them I have attributed I have not bothered to look up reference numbers for so for the most part do not know whether you have them or not. We have a number of interesting pieces. I do not know whether you want these just for the purpose of study and comparison or to publish the most interesting ones as you have been doing lately with your other catalogues, that is showing the high spots in other museums.

It is far easier for us to photograph them than to make casts, especially as we are short-handed. Personally I would much rather photograph as many as I can on a number of negatives including about everything than attempt to work over the things just now and make casts. These we would be glad to give you. I can send you a duplicate set of photographs numbering each one and any that you especially desire later on to have casts made of return one sheet of photographs indicating what you wish.

When you come to the other series, especially the gold and silver, we can more easily pick out what you have not published. Several years ago I made a notebook of all the gold and silver Umayyad coins published since Tiesenhausen. This I can later send you, if you wish. It will give some indication of the rarity. I never did this for the Abbasid coins. Among the Umayyad silver we have only two or three not published.

Mrs. Brett, who was over last summer, told me that you were starting in in the coin room. I am enclosing a rubbing of a medal either gotten out by the French or the British East India Company. It is said to be of General Martin. Can you give me any more information about it. I have seen

- c o n t i n u e d -

Mr. Walker - 2

May 9, 1933.

it somewhere but cannot put my finger on it just now. Please remember me to Mr. Allan and tell him as usual he owes me several letters. I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.

May 18th 1933.

Holland Wood, Esq.

Dear Sir, many thanks for your kind letter. Let me
add that I am in no immediate hurry for the
photographs of your coins. As our publishing grant
has been stopped there is little chance of new
catalogues appearing for some years. Nevertheless I
am preparing material for one covering the Umayyad
and 'Abbāsid Caliphs (A, AR, AE and including the Arab-
Sassanian silver but these uncatalogued by the B.M.)
The photographs you very kindly promise will be very
useful for study and comparison, and any particularly
remarkable specimens I may ask your permission to
publish afterwards from casts as you suggest.
Later I should appreciate very much

having a note of the unpublished A & R in your collection.

The medal you ask about was one of those awarded as prizes for diligence at the Marinière Schools founded by General Claude Martin (جنرل کلوڈ مارتین) in India. I can refer you to Ferrer Biogr. Sci. - Méthallin under the engraver Mackenzie and W. J. Hocking's Cat. of the Mint Coll. II. 244. They were issued in 1798 I believe.

Mr Allan is on holiday at present but when he returns I shall pass on your good wishes to him. I trust you are returned to your normal health.

Yours sincerely,

John Walker
Assistant-Keeper.

May 31, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
British Museum
London, W. C. England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter just at hand and I am going through our copper coins of the Caliphate and will try to get them in better order. Also, I have put in the electric bath a large number to clean and get in better shape so they will photograph in a more presentable manner. When you are ready for the gold and silver series let me know.

I wish to thank you for the information on the General Martin medal. I had seen this several times somewhere but could not put my hands on it. Dr. F. Parks Weber was in our museum the other day and I also spent an evening with him. I suppose by this time he has returned to England.

Very truly yours,

NW:JC

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

June 9th 1933

Dear Mr. Howard Wood,

Your letter to hand
to day. I don't expect to
be ready for the notes and
gold series for some little
time, at any rate not
until after I get the photo-
graphs of the copper. There is
nearly no hurry as our publication
grant has been stopped.

Yours sincerely
J Walker

July 5, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, W. C. 1, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

At last I have made a start on photographing the early Mohammedan copper coins. Of the Byzantine type I photographed those that might present varieties or new features. Number 13 is especially interesting but I have been unable to read the mint; No. 23 is also interesting; it has on the reverse what appears to be a monogram. I have gone a little more fully into the ordinary straight Mohammedan types without dates or years. These seem to be endless but I photographed these as there seemed to be both thick and thin issues with the same inscription. No. 62 is an interesting piece. These first sixty-four numbers are all I have gotten around to up to date. I am also including a few other negatives of Mohammedan coins that we have done recently and of which I have had extra prints made. I thought you might be interested in having the lead coins of Barquq. The sulu coins are rare. They are no longer in use today and are seldom seen in the Philippines even among the Moros. The few left there are zealously guarded by their owners as keepsakes and they are loathe to part with them. They keep them as souvenirs and sometimes mount a silver rim around them as is shown in No. 7. The Brunei coins are rather scarce, especially the earlier thick ones, No. 13 to 15. I am also enclosing a negative of thin copper coins that have been found at Antioch. I have been unable to make heads or tails out of them. I have kept duplicate photographs and if ever you want casts or further information just quote the number. In a few weeks I expect to have the rest of the Amawee series.

Very truly yours,



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.

July 13th 1933.

Dear Mr. Howard Wood,

I am extremely indebted to you

for the photographs of the early Arab copper coins.

It was also very kind of you to send the photos of the other very interesting lots. I have seen Mayer's article already but I feel I cannot regard these leaden pieces as actual coins. They are more like trial pieces from gold dies. Some months ago we had a similar lead piece sent to us by a dealer in Damascus purporting to be a coin of Shajar-al-Durr. The epigraphy however was much cruder. I am very glad therefore to have your illustrations. The coins from Antioch are certainly puzzling, but I hardly think they can be early. They are probably of the Seljuk period.

Just a note or two on the Early Arab (Byzant. type)
no. 7 is probably 'Abd al Malik and judging by the
style from the mint of 'Amman.
no. 13. Mint uncertain? Perhaps reading below

لؤلؤ

It is interesting to have the standing emperor
with the cursive M reverse. There are two dubious
specimens of this type (without Arabic legends) in the B.M.

no. 19. This may not be Arab.

nos 20-21 I should not include these as Arab.
Space Lavoix.

no 22 Certainly a very good specimen.

no 23. Very interesting because of monogram(?) and
new name. ٠ ١th (?)

no 24. 'Amman with name & star on different sides.

nos 28-29. May be mint Sarmin. Lane - Porle

failed to read this in (56-58): not Halab
but Sarmin. (left) || (right)
سارمين || حلب

With many thanks,

Yours sincerely,

John Walker

August 9, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, W. C. England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

After some delay due to our photographer being on his vacation for three weeks I am enclosing herewith the balance of the Amawee copper coins. In this lot I may have included a few Abbasee. I thought better to include rather than exclude and you can hold any Abbasee coins over until you get around to them. Also, you will note a good many pieces that I have not been able to make out. A few of these may be other dynasties. You now have in copper about everything we have worthwhile.

I have just received your monograph on the coins of the Zang. I have looked through our collection but cannot locate a specimen.

As with the first lot I have duplicate photographs numbered so if anything comes up refer simply by number.

I have thought like you have about those lead coins of Barquq but dismissed it for the simply reason that I cannot conceive they would strike any such large number of trial pieces, especially from the same dies. Mayer, who may still be in London at White Hall, Russell Square, feels pretty strongly they are coins. I place those coins from Antioch at about the Seljuk period but not of the Seljuks. Many thanks for your remarks about our Byzantine type coins. Mr. G. W. Grabham of Khartoum was in here the other day to look over our collection of Omdurman coins, of which by the way we have got an extremely fine collection.

Very truly yours,

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Aug. 22nd 1933.

Dear Mr. Harold Wort,

Many thanks for the photographs which are extremely valuable. You have some excellent examples.

No. 69. Very interesting. But I don't think it reads *allāh* (1) as you suggest. I think it is *o s s o* being a continuation from the other side. (or is it simply *o s s o* ?)

No 70. Important if your 98 which you read *Adharbarjān* (?) I am uncertain about this.

71. common in B.M. Provenance probably Baalbek (q.v.)

74. dots worn down.

80 not in B.M.

82 Berlin 1936 yours is a die variety.
none in B.M.

83. I have always considered this from Damascus (by style)
one in B.M.

1 very rare coin.

85. all legs, ~~not~~ on both sides. Good specimen in Mr Thorburn's collection.

88. ?

90. Thorburn has a poor one (said to come from Mt. Carmel.)

92. Your 109 prob. correct

98. cf. no. 70. —

105. Very interesting.

128. certainly Damascus.

129. äöyl. (bi'l-Rama) [formerly read as Rakka] mistake for Ramla

130. B.M. one of this type ^{only} Askalān
= Berlin 2029 (though Kuntze did not know it)

137-8. Very interesting. B.M. has two specimens, the early type without mint name + with lion (right) and lion (left) respectively. (unpublished)

141. Mint name very clear.

142. Are there Fustat? ~~✱~~ I should like to see them all.

143. This is Atrib (Banha) in Egypt أتریب Excellent specimen

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

150-1 I had already altered
on 170.

Meanwhile the work is being
held up by pressure of other
business.

I have been preparing notes
on the Governors of Sijistan (the
2nd Saffarid Dynasty) Harth b. 'Alī
to Khulaf b. Ahmad. Have
you any?

I have also "unearthed"
two interesting copper coins
of a new governor of Sijistan
(Imrān b. Isma'il (dated 136 A.H.)
father-in-law of Abū Muslim.
The fascinating thing about them

is the central legend.

ستین
بروم

sixty for a dīshān

جائز
بدانق

current as a
dānak

It is the earliest numismatic
equation recorded. Unfortunately
there are difficulties in fitting it
into the scheme of metrology.

I hope to publish it soon.

Kindest regards

Yours sincerely,
J. Walker

September 19, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, W. C. 1, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter came while I was on my vacation and I am glad you found enough value and help in the photographs to make them worthwhile. I am afraid I cannot help you out on the Sijistan coins. We have only the common copper coins, namely BMC 34, BM addition 42F, 42N, 42P and one other that is given in the J.A.S.B. LVII, 149, of Azad Iben Harb.

Concerning your notations on the photographs sent I see no other reading of No. 98 than A D H A R B A J A M.

I think your conclusions are correct about No. 71 being Baalbek.

You are right about No. 74 - under a good glass the border is of dots.

No. 84 I have done my best to read but never have been successful.

No. 88 is as much a puzzle to me as to you. I firmly believe it is early. The photograph shows just as much as is on the coin.

As regards No. 142 I am enclosing two of them. Both seem to be of white metal and not copper. The edge inscription does seem to be different. Please return them when through.

Many thanks for attributing No. 143. I have looked through our collection and unfortunately find we have no pieces like the Sijistan that you have recently unearthed reading "Sixty for a dirham".

I do not want to sail under false colors and in some of my attributions I may be wrong but am simply doing the best I can without outside help, as no one over here knows anything about Arabic coins. I have

John Walker, Esq. - 2

September 19, 1933.

never had a lesson in Arabic - what I know is what I have picked up by many years plugging at these coins. I can read the characters pretty well but I do not know the language from a grammatical or literary standpoint. I have always thought that the BM catalogues were too scanty. Lane Poole went on the basis that others knew as much as he did.

Very truly yours,

HW: JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Sept 28th 1933.

Dear Mr. Howard Wood,

many thanks for
your interesting letter and the two
coins from Egypt. I may,
should like to keep them beside me
for a little longer to have casts
made and to study them further.
The inscription might be intended
for knell } but I doubt it. We
now know of several Egyptian mints
at this period — Fustat, Atrich (your
specimen is excellent) Faiyum (Paris)
and Iskandariya? (Paris — the latter
I have not seen to verify) and perhaps
the coin you sent provides another.
But at present it baffles me. There
seems to be a large proportion of
lead in most of these coins.

Your co-operation is most valuable
to me. It is just a pity we
should be so separated

I can't remember whether I
asked you to compare No 98 with
No 70. Although the letters are in
a different order — the inscription
appears to be the same. In the case
of No 70 I ^{thought of} ~~suggested~~ s.e.s.e.
but the more I compare it with
No 98 I come to the conclusion that
your reading is the more feasible viz.
ا.د.ب.ج.ا (written defectively for
ا.د.ب.ج.ا).

I am sorry you have no
new Sijistan coins for me, but
they are very rare indeed of
that period.

Many thanks and best
wishes,

Yours very sincerely

John Walker

Stirring my (17)

in the (17)

in the (17)

October 7, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. John Walker:

I hope you will make out the mint on those two little lead coins I sent you. I simply considered them a bungled inscription and their being apparently in lead a minor official issue, possibly tokens or or counterfeits of the time. I have compared No. 98 with 70 and I think they are both of the same mint. However, I think it is well to let you decide this and I am enclosing them, as well as No. 117 that I consider most interesting. You did not mention whether you have seen this latter, one or not. The lack of a continuous age inscription would make one think possibly it was a modern imitation but one look at the piece shows that it is old. Unfortunately the photograph of it I sent you was rather dark.

On the whole which method do you think best for purposes of study, casts or photographs like those I sent? I find that I would rather use good photographs as I can rearrange them and paste them in my notebook and later on I could send for any special casts that I want. We make the photographs right here in our own department.

Did the British Museum get our new design quarters issued in 1932 with the head of Washington on them? If not, I can send you an example. About six and one half million were made but one never sees them in circulation. They have all been kept for souvenirs.

I am also sending photographs of Chinese Turkestan coins. These you can keep if you wish. I am also sending my notes on the earlier pieces of the one mace and five fen pieces. At your leisure will you look over these and see if the British Museum have any special types I do not have. You will notice one illustration from a BM cast.. With this however I also have been decidedly up against it in reading some of the Turki. If you can help out on this I will be thankful. The notes naturally I want returned. The two coins on the first page are extremely interesting, naturally both are extremely rare. The second one we had for quite awhile and I was at a loss to place it until one day I discovered

John Walker- 2

October 7, 1933.

the Chinese character in the center interwoven among the Arabic letters.
The rest of the inscription I have partly made out. I would be interested
if the BM has a specimen. I remain

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Oct. 18th 1933.

Dear Mr. Hurland Wood,

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your interesting letter and your ms. and photographs, which I hope to examine very soon. Many thanks also for sending me the three coins to look at. I shall return them with the others when I have extracted from them all that I possibly can. As you say the No. 117 is most interesting and it is obviously genuine. Of course you get that discontinued type of legend on the margin sometimes of Abbots Silver but outside the normal margin.

I think I prefer your system
of having photographs as they are
much easier to handle.

We have not so far had
any of the 1932 quarters, and we
should appreciate an example very
much.

I shall write to you as soon
as I manage to examine the
Turkistan coin in more
detail.

With all good wishes

Yours sincerely

John Walker



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.

October 21st 1933.

Dear Mr Wood,

I am returning the five coins you so kindly sent me. It is not possible as yet for me to make any more headway with the decipherment of the name on the little lead one from Egypt. I don't think it can be Kené. Furist. Although it is just possible that it is knigled. I shall be able to work quite well with the photographs so I send ^{the coins} them back now.

back now. I have kept the photos. of the Chinese Tibetan
coins. They will be very useful. Many thanks for them.
I am having casts made of our examples and shall
send them when they are ready. Your notes I consider
very illuminating, and am returning them with thanks
for letting me see them. Hope you will publish them
som. We have no specimen of the coin you mention
having the Chinese character interwoven in the centre.
I'm going through the notes I added lightly in pencil

whether it was in the B.M. or not. I trust you will
forgive me. But the casts will shew, more clearly than
any description, what we have — which as you see
is rather limited.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

John Walker

November 1, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letters of the 18th and 21st are at hand. I am enclosing herewith one of the 1932 quarters from the Philadelphia mint. This mint has no mint letter, Denver has a "D" and San Francisco an "S". In other days there were the New Orleans mint with an "O" and several minor mints. This quarter is of a new type which will be used from now on. It was changed on account of the Bicentennial of the birth of Washington. John Flanagan of New York was the artist. I am also enclosing some 1932 one cent pieces, one from the Philadelphia and one from the Denver mint. Also for good measure I am enclosing a 1933 Canadian cent. The Canadian coinage today is exactly the same size as ours. I b

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the five coins of ours that you returned. Those two little pieces that bother you apparently are lead rather than copper. I doubt if there is much of any copper in them. Therefore, they may be a token issue, issued for some local purpose, perhaps privately. In that case the inscription stands a chance of being bungled.

If I do publish the Turkestan coins I doubt if I would publish them in this country as there is no demand or call for such articles here. I beg to remain

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

December 19, 1933.

John Walker, Esq.
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am enclosing a few more of those queer copper coins from the 1933 dig at Antioch. The second coin is most interesting. It is of the same fabric as the others but shows a head on it. This has a strong resemblance to some of the Antioch coins struck by the crusaders and possibly shows a crusader on it. The cross would also make it a crusader piece. I am beginning to think all of these coins were struck by the crusaders.

We have run out of good sealing wax to make plaster impressions and I do not find any suitable wax in this country. We used to get it from Germany; that was before the war. Can you find out what wax you use and where it may be obtained. As a matter of fact we use very little as we make nearly all of our casts in plasticine.

I am also enclosing a cast of a gold coin struck by Mohammed Bin Tuglak struck in memory of his father, which I picked up over the counter the other day for gold value. I think you have one of these which was in the Bleazby collection. Thought you might like to have this for comparison. Wright wrote it up in the J.A.S.B. for 1904. I have been studying lately the Larins struck according to historians at El Basra by the Turks but have not had enough of them to get very far. You probably have a few. I know they are most difficult to photograph or even make casts of, but if you could send me drawings, rubbings or anything that I can work on I would appreciate it. As nearly as I can make out nearly all of those that turn up nowadays come from Ceylon. Also, have you any that can be identified as being made at Lar in Persia?

Wishing you the Compliments of the Season, I remain

Very truly yours,



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1

Jan. 5th 1934.

Dear Mr Wood,

Your letter was awaiting me when I returned from vacation. Many thanks for what you sent. As usual they are all very interesting. It is possible that your theory that the "Antioch" coins are Crusaders may be sound. But there is only that one stray specimen to depend upon for evidence. One of the Princeton coins (the one with animal right and star) looks almost Mamluk. Beyond the word *ikhwa* and the Kalima it is impossible to make any more of them. But I am very glad to have them on record.

We get our sealing wax (which
is made I believe in Glasgow) from
Geo Waterston & Sons, 8, St. Bride St.,
London, E.C.1. You might ask
for Seal Engravers Wax as supplied
to the B.M. (size 10)

Thanks for the cast of the
Tynghlak Shill coin. We have (besides
the Bleasby specimen - date not clear)
one from R.B. Whithead's coll. of which
I send you a rubbing.

The Larnis are most difficult
but interesting. Have you ever seen a
red one? I suppose you know Mr
Allen's article discussing them
(in Num. Chron. 1912, especially p. 11.) where
some with the name C, D are mentioned.
I don't think it is possible to
read more out of our specimens
than ~~has~~ already been done. But
if I can I shall communicate
with you. With all good wishes for the New Year.
Yours sincerely,
John Walker

February 7, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter of January 5th duly at hand but at the time I had nothing especial to write you so therefore did not write. I am sending you under separate cover a package of casts of some of our more important gold and silver anawti coins. The reason for doing this is because we have a part-time girl making casts and sometimes I am at a loss to know how to keep her busy.

The other day I mailed you our latest monograph. This I had been working on off and on for the past year. The whole collection was given to us and we are keeping about two-thirds of them. Dr. Casey A. Wood, the donor, wished us to trade with other museums the duplicates. Have you anything in any lines that you would like to trade for some of these? All of the high spots we are either keeping or have sent to Ceylon. I wish to thank you for the address of the sealing wax maker. I beg to remain

Sincerely yours,

HW:JG

Curator



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS.
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1

Feb. 13th 1934.

Dear Mr Wood

I have just finished
your book on the Campolo Tarn
Hoard which I have found
exceedingly useful. Many thanks
for sending me a copy which I
value very much.

On p 76 the transcription
of the name would be of course, more
accurately Khallad Allak (mulkahu).

I learned a lot from
your very succinct account of a very
difficult numismatic subject.

Kindest regards

Yours sincerely
John Walker



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS.
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1

Feb. 15th 1914.

Dear Mr Wood,

Since reading your
interesting monograph on the Lavinian
I have been examining the Arabian
"Tamil" in the B.M. and I believe
I have discovered the legend which
has so far been indecipherable.
As you will see from my illustration
the legend is based on a coin of
the Sultan Ahmad III (1703-30 A.D.)

The axes of the coin are almost at
right angles as you will see from
the little arrows which I have put
in to represent the approximate

cross section. Most of the 13 examples
in the B.M. exhibit this type of
legend (The lot came from
H. F. in 1887 and were presented
by Otto Blas). The example you
illustrate has the same obverse.
I was wondering whether your
specimens in any way confirmed
my theory.

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,
John Walker

P.S. you need not return the casts
or drawings. JW



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS.

BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1

Feb. 19th 1934.

Dear Mr Wood,

Many thanks for the
cases of ~~so~~ many interesting
and rare Umayyad coins. They
will be very useful to me. We
have a $\frac{1}{3}$ dinar year 96. The dinar
105 is certainly remarkable and looks
as if it were issued in the name of
a rival Caliph in the Hijaz. The mint
of Bihkubadh al-Ausat. (بَهْكُوبَاذِ الْأَوْسَطِ)
is new, although we have بَهْكُوبَاذِ الْأَوْسَطِ.
al-Asfal (بَهْكُوبَاذِ الْأَوْسَطِ) Dinar taken 90
is in Paris. I am sorry I cannot
be certain about the mint on
the last example.

reaching

Regarding the Ceylon ferns, if
you would care to send us a few
specimens likely to be of interest to
us we can see if we have anything
to send you in exchange.

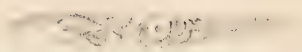
Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,
J. W. Walker

Horland Wood, Esq.



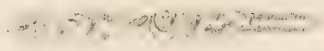
a



b



c



d



e



f



g



h



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1

March 7th 1934

Dear Mr. Wood,

I have just come across
in my notes certain references which
help to explain the rather interesting
denar you have and of which you
kindly sent me a cast. The reading
is الحاج المكي which Casanova
interpreted as "Prince of the Commander
the Faithful in the Hijaz." You will
find it in his Inventory Sommaire
de la Bibliothèque de S. A. le Prince
Oréal (Paris 1896 p. 14 ff.) and also
his article Une mine d'or au
Hijaz (extrait du Bulletin de la
Section de Géographie du Comité).

des travaux historiques et scientifiques 1921.
See also Revue Num. 1922/97.

Yours in haste.
J. Walker

Transmitted
March 20/22

Wm. A.
H. L. L.

Cano

327

336

337

339

340

342

343

348

357

March 8, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your several letters at hand. As the first one did not need a direct answer I held it. Now that you call my attention to the fact I can not see why I did not spell BHALLAD with an H. I know I had it correctly on my original notes but the H must have fallen by the wayside in some of the copies. I have given quite a little thought to those Nejd pieces and I want to congratulate you for deciphering as much as you have. I also at the same time want to kick myself for not having noticed on them the formula side of the Turkish coins. All our pieces certainly show this on one side. The most interesting fact is that all of the pieces show just about the same part of the formula as yours do. It is also interesting to note that the three or four silver Basra larins that I have seen show just the same part. I am enclosing a photograph of our tawils. On several I make out the word Ahmad Khan but I should judge they are not from Ahmad coins but from Mazaffar or Abdul Hamid. I am also including some notes I made about these. I feel pretty well convinced that these Nejd pieces were not struck from dies of Turkish coins because they certainly did not have the dies, but from dies made in imitation. Although you do not express this in your letter I should judge that this was your feeling also.

Most of our pieces I haven't as yet been able to work out. Possibly you may get some clues from the photograph. When I get a chance I will look around among the dealers here and see what they have in these pieces. At one time there were a lot in this country. Do not return the photograph as this is for you.

I am also enclosing a few notes on references to the Bihkubadh Al-Ausat mint, as well as one or two other similar mints. If ever you find out about that Hedjaz gold piece I would be interested in knowing. We picked it up in a Syrian novelty shop last winter.

I am enclosing herewith ten larins from the Gampola hoard which I thought might be different than any you had. If you want to keep them you are welcome and anything you can dig up in the way of exchange let me know particulars. I think dealers ask from 10 to 20 shillings each for them and you might keep in mind, say 10 shillings, as about a basis of exchange. All the good and important pieces we are either keeping or have

Mr. Walker - 2

March 8, 1934.

distributed but if there are any numbers in my book that may interest you let me know and there is a slight possibility we may have duplicates. Among the coins we have the following duplicates:

No. 327
336
337
339
340
342
343
348
357.

We have been exceedingly busy since the first of the year. We have been going through a catalogue of 32,000 foreigncopper coins and from which we picked out some 2,000 coins. These have come in and my assistant has been labelling the boxes and all the rest that goes with new items. Also, we looked through some 7,000 South American silver and copper and picked out nearly 1,500 pieces and as there are only two of us in the coin room you can see we have been busy; with an average of ten people a day coming in and possibly twenty telephone calls and plenty of correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

HW:JG

Curator



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS.

BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1

March 24th 1934.

Dear Mr Wood,

Many thanks for your letter and contents. I am glad you agree with my elucidation of the inscription on the 'hejra' pieces. But I still maintain they are not so late as 'huzaffar' or 'Abdul Hamid' coins, but as I said in my previous letter, of 'Ahmad'. I certainly agree with you that they were not struck from dies of Turkish coins but from dies made in imitation thereof. I had already noted that. I am glad to have the photo. of your 'tawils'. They will be useful for reference, but I am afraid they do not tell us much more than

what I have already noticed in
my letter to you.

My note to you on the gold coin of
the Higos must have crossed your letter
on the way.

The Bihbihad al Asa (?) is very
dubious - the Guaraní people. But it might
be a misreading of any of the three names. I
prefer to leave your cast, which is clear.

Mr Allan will consider the
question of the Sampaia Laurus and let
you know in due course.

Next week I am going to
Rome for about a fortnight, and
hope to see the Vatican collection.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely

John Walker

March 28, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, W. C. 1. England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I wish to thank you most sincerely for the references of the Hijaz coin. I have read the account of the Princesse Ismail's collection as well as the account in the Revue Numismatique. I am enclosing a rubbing from a very poor coin that appears to have been struck in lead. I can see no traces of copper in the piece.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.1.

April 17th 1934

Dear Mr. Wood,

I have just returned from Italy to
find your note and the rubbing. The
coin reads (of course not so completely)

all over
1 VI all X
0 2 2 2 all

(centre) X
around.

all over, etc

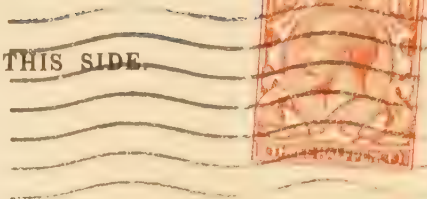
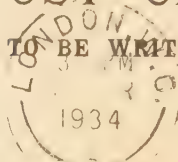
There is usually a percentage of lead
in coins of this type, but I have not
seen one so completely leaden as your
appears to be

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely,
Walker

POST CARD.

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



Mr. Howard Wood,
Curator,
American Humane Society,
Broadway 155-156 Street,
New York City,
U. S. A.

August 1, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Very little has come up in the past few months and as I knew you were on your vacation I have seen no need of writing. I am enclosing a rubbing of a medal that has about the same general appearance and die cutting and composition of metal as the large series of Vernon medals. The inscription is I DON BENJAMIN MADE THE CONVENTION - BRAVEO, and the reverse has ALL'S UNDONE - NO SEARCH 95000 L. Could someone in your department tell me who Don Benjamin was and the occasion for the medal?

Has the B. M. any of those crude coins assigned to Kutbed-din Aibac. Rodgers mentions these in his catalogue of his coins purchased by the government of the Punjab, page 38 Part II, 1894, and also illustrates one side of four pieces in one of the numbers of the J.A.S.B. Valentine in his India, Part II, No. 121 and 122 pictures two of them copied from Rodgers. I have a specimen the reverse of which I cannot make out. Rodgers claims it is a crude representation of the bull, like on the bull and horse-men series. Has the B. M. any of these coins; if so I would appreciate casts. I am enclosing a rubbing of my piece.

For the next month I will be leading more or less a life of ease but will be in the museum one day a week. We have had an extremely hot summer, not especially dry in the east, but from the Appalachian to the Rocky mountains the country is nearly burnt to a crisp.

Very truly yours,



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.

Aug. 14th 1934.

Dear Mr Wood,

This is just a brief reply
to your welcome letter of the 1st.

You will find the description
of the Don Benjamin medal in Medallic
Illustrations II pp 528-9.

There is no example of the
coin of Kuth al-Din Aibak you mention
in the BM. The only known specimens seem
to be in Lahore. Mr Nelson Wright is
just on the point of publishing his Catalogue
of the coins of the Sultans of Delhi. you will
be interested to hear.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,
J. Walker

September 14, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, W. C. England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Many thanks for giving me the reference to the Don Benjamin medal. I had my assistant try to look it up but he thought it was of the time of George III and did not look for it in Medallie Illustrations, but had I given it proper thought I would have looked there myself for it.

I am glad to know that at last Mr. Nelson Wright is going to publish his book on the Sultans of Delhi. A complete account of these brought up to date is really needed. We are at last getting settled down after summer vacations and things should be going along in routine manner from now on.

Very truly yours,

HW: JG

Curator

October 15, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am herewith enclosing a medal of myself issued by the New York Numismatic Club to commemorate the tenure of my office as President ending last year. It also commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Club. Medals have been struck by the Club at the conclusion of the term of each President. Please have this placed in the cabinet of the British Museum.

I am also enclosing two rubbings of copper coins recently acquired. I read the one of Byzantine type as HIMS. The other one I think may be RAY. If you wish photographs or casts just say the word. I remain

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

Oct. 26th - 1914.

Dear Mr Wood,

Many thanks for your
letter of the 15th - with enclosures.
The medal is very good, though
whether it is a good likeness
I cannot say - not having seen
the original. We shall be very
pleased to add it to the
Museum collection.

The rubbings you
sent are both interesting.

One is certainly of Hims.
It is interesting because it
has a job on it. Our two specimens
are without this - although I know
already of its existence in other
collections.

The other coin, as you note, is
like Bedun 2061. But I don't
think it is Rayy. My theory
is that these particular coins
are from Harvan or Rubā.
Your specimen seems to be dated
(in a blundered fashion) 116 AH.

I trust you are well.

Yours sincerely,
J Walker.

P.S. I am working on the Arab-Sassanian
at the moment. Can you help me with
rubbings of any you have? Tr.

November 9, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I note you are going over to the Arab Sassanian coins, which the BM has never published in catalogue form. I think a good deal of study could be put on these as the series has been very much neglected. We have a number of these but only two or three unpublished. I will dig into my Pahlavi of which I know nothing, and will shortly send you rubbings etc. of what we have. Allan wrote me the other day and told me of the death of Brooke.

I am enclosing a rubbing of a badly worn copper coin that we have that might be Arab Sassanian. Unfortunately the reverse is worn somewhat.

Best regards,

HW:JG

Curator

November 15, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am herewith enclosing a list of our Arab Sassanian coins. I thought it would be better to draw up a list like this rather than make rubbings of most of them, as the bulk are unimportant. I have copied as exactly as I could the dates and mints. Undoubtedly there are a number of these unrecorded. I do not guarantee that I have put on the right dates against each piece. On the second sheet are a few unusual pieces. The three that I have checked in blue I will later send you photographs of. I do not dare to make a cast of one of the pieces as it is badly cracked. At the end I am enclosing a certain series that I consider Arab Sassanian rather than straight Sassanian on account of the die work. The unique piece with a pennant under an archway was acquired by Mr. Newell a few months ago. Unfortunately it does not seem to have any Governor's name on it. The other piece with the long inscription on the reverse I have been unable to attribute. Let me know if you work it out. If there are any dates you want photographed just write me and I will have them done.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

Nov. 17th 1934

Dear Mr Wood,

Many thanks for
your note and the rubbing
of the coin, which baffles
me as much as you. I
shall keep it by me; perhaps
a better specimen may turn
up.

I shall be very
pleased to have rubbings of
any Anti-International coins

you have. I have just
finished an article for the
Chronicle on three new
boats - Sassanian gunners
When it appears I shall
send you an off print.

Kindest regards

Yours sincerely,
J. Waller

December 12, 1934.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter of November 26th at hand. I will be glad when you have finished to get your final interpretation of the dates on those Sassanian coins I guessed wrong. Most of our pieces we bought here and there at random. Many of them were given by Newell, a few by myself and a few by other members. None of them came from any published or noted collection of these coins. In other words they were dug up out of the nowhere! I am enclosing photographs of ~~the~~ three more interesting pieces. The one with the hole I picked up years ago from some out of the way source. The cracked one came in with some junk a few years ago and the one with the arch Newell picked up the other day from a Persian.

Our strongest lines are from Persian dynasties and when you eventually get around to these we may be able to give you some help. We are strong in the Kara Kuyunli, Ak Kuyunli, Ghaznabids, Great Seljuks, Rum Seljuks, Monguls of Persia and Shahs of Persia. I have been working over these Mongul coins of late and have found many new types. I will take up one phase of these later with you.

Kindest of regards for Christmas and the New Year, I am

Very truly yours,

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

Dec. 22nd 1934

Dear Mr Wood,

Many thanks for your letter and the photos which will be very useful to me. I am just going off on holiday so I shall postpone answering your letters until I return.

Prof Herzfeld who is working in the dept. at present has allowed me to

see some very rare Arab-
Sassanian coins of his. Among-
them I have found a new
Qasr Munkatil ibn Hishma.

A.H. 71. Herzfeld has
kindly given me permission
to publish these coins of his.
However I shall have more
to tell you when next I
write.

Every good wish for a
Happy Christmas

Yours sincerely,
J. Walker

February 18, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, W. C. 1, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Through some oversight the cast of our Sassanian coin was not sent you. I am herewith sending it to you together with casts of some bronze coins that have just turned up in a hoard of some 700 Mamluke copper coins found at Antioch. The hoard had about 20 Crusader coins, one Golden hoard coin. These little copper coins of which I am enclosing casts were struck at Siwas, the mint is absolutely clear on most of the coins as the bulk of the coins in the hoard are of the time of the last Bahri Mamluke and the first Burjis. I am enclined to attribute these little copper coins to the Beni Artinas, who I think were holding Siwas at that time. The other side is most interesting. It seems to be about the last survival on a coin of the seated figure of Zeus and was probably copied from one of the coins of Alexander the Great. Have you ever seen any of these coins? Also what do you think of my attributing them to the Beni Artinas?

I am looking forward to seeing Nelson Wright's corpus. Have you any idea when it will be published? I received your account of the new coin from Sistan. I read it with a good deal of interest and proceeded to look through our unidentified copper, but to no avail. Are there any other series of coins I can send you casts or photographs of?

Very truly yours,

HT:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

March 1st 1935

Dear Mr. Wood,

Many thanks for your letter
and the casts which are exceedingly
interesting. They are quite new
to me. Your conjecture that the
copper coins from the Antioch hoard
may be of the Beni Artama, is
quite possible. Or else of the
Seljuks of Rum? At all events it is
very amusing to note the copying
of the seated Zeus of Alexander's
coinage. The mint Sivas is perfectly

Yours,

I am still working at the Arab-Sassanian governors, but it is slow work as there are so many other things to be done in the Department. But I am checking our coins as I go along with your list and when I am finished perhaps you may be able to help me with photos or casts.

Nelson Wright is at present correcting the proof of his catalogue, so it should not be too long before it is published.

You perhaps remember I wrote some months ago to you about the coins of the second Saffarid dynasty of Sistan.

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

2

I spent some time over them and collected all the information I could about them. The coins are very rare, although we are fortunate in having over 40. Among other things I was able to decipher the (new) legend on ~~the~~ gold (which I believe I told you about). I have been wondering whether ^{if I sent} the typescripts to you with the casts of all the coins available, you might let me know whether you might consider it as suitable for

your Numismatic Notes and
Manographs. At any rate I
should like your opinion on
the matter. I reckon there
would be material for about
6 plates. I believe you told me
you had no specimens of the
coinage of this dynasty in
your collection, so no doubt
you will be interested in
the casts.

Very truly yours,
John Walker

March 22, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
British Museum
London, W. C. 1, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter of March 1st has been on my desk several days but as I wish to discuss your proposition about submitting a manuscript for our Notes and Monographs I have delayed answering it. We have, up to date, held off from publishing anything on Mohammedan coins because there is virtually no interest for these in this country and outside of myself and the museum here there are no intelligent collectors of these. Also, the cost of using Arabic fonts etc. has been a sort of a deterrent. I have talked this over with our committee and with Mr. Nevell and their report is that they are open-minded. In other words, because we haven't doesn't mean that we will not! Therefore, we should be glad to have you send on your material if you want to take a chance, as I can give you no assurance one way or the other. Personally, I would be very glad to see your manuscript and certainly would be interested in studying the casts.

The three little copper coins from Siwas I assign to the Beni Artina, as it seemed to me they must have been holding Siwas at the time these coins might have been made. Also, the small size and thinner of the coins would be more in accord with their silver than to assign them to the Seljuks whose copper coins ran larger.

Let us hope that Nelson Wright's publication gets out pretty soon.

We have just received from the Yemen seventy silver coins struck by the Ayyoob Prince Mes'ood Yusuf, showing a number of mints and about the whole range of dates that he was in power and together with these were about a dozen pieces of En'nasir Ayyoob. These you describe in your Additions I, page 338. Have you any notes where any of these pieces have been published. So far I have not been able to locate any account.

Very truly yours,

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

March 30th 1935

Dear Mr Wood,

Many thanks for your letter of the 22nd. I quite see the difficulty of publishing my list. If the expense of Arabic fonts should be the only deterrent perhaps parts of the Catalogue might be transliterated, and for that matter considerably abridged. At all events, I am sending you the list for your own observations. Perhaps you may be able to add to it from your own

collection.

Nelson Wright is still working
here on most days. but it
will be some months before
his catalogue will appear.

We are very poorly represented
in the coins of the Uighurids in
Yunnan. You are fortunate to procure
the one you have just got.

Zamboni does not record any
known coins of Prince Mas'ud
Yusuf. I am sorry I have no
reference to any publication of
such coins.

Have you heard anything
about Varner at Penang? He
seems to have completely disappeared.
I hope he is all right.

Yours sincerely,

J. Walker

(signed) J. Walker

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

April 18th - 1935.

Dear Mr Wood,

I am sending you
coins of a drachm of Khusrav II
of which we have a duplicate
for sale (at say £2) Would
your Society care to buy it?
It is dated 36, which is
one year earlier than the
rare specimen in the
Vienna Cabinet.

It has the very interesting
reverse type with star
dent and flaming halo.

I thought you might care
to have the first refusal.

Best wishes for Entertide.

Yours sincerely,
J Walker

April 30, 1935.

Mr. John Walker
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, W. C. 1, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your favor of April 18th just at hand. We would be very glad to take the Khusrav II drachm with the two facing heads at £2. We are, however, in a little doubt whether the cast you sent us is of the B. W. specimen or the duplicate which you wished to sell. If it is of the duplicate, well and good! If not, does the duplicate approach the piece you sent the cast of, in condition? If too poor we probably would not want it. Also, let us know who to make the draft out to.

I am afraid I did not acknowledge the receipt of your manuscript and the casts. These came safely and Mr. Newell, Mr. Noe and myself have studied this over and we three are inclined to accept the manuscript, but we haven't as yet laid it before the Publication Committee. Also, we have got to study a little the cost of printing. We possibly would cut out some or most of the Arabic in the introduction on account of expense. However, I will write you concerning this later. The delay has largely been up to me, as I have been called away two or three times through the sickness and death of my mother, as well as being jammed with a lot of additional work on a Mexican article we are going to publish.

Sincerely yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

May 10th 1935.

Dear Mr Wood,

Many thanks for
your letter of the 30th April.
I am enclosing you the
actual droshum of Klaron II
which you may be prepared to
buy. If you still wish to
purchase after seeing the
coin itself, please make
the draft out to Mr Allan.
I think you will find it
a fairly good specimen and

practically equal to the
Bh. specimen, which I hope
to publish somewhere soon.

I am glad the Sinitan
ms. met with your approval
and that of your colleagues.
I hope your publication
committee will be as favourable.

Please accept my sincerest
condolences with you on your
recent sad bereavement.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely
John Walker

May 20, 1935.

Mr. John Walker
Department of Coins and Medals
British Museum
London, W. C. 1, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

The drachm of Khusrau II came here on Saturday and we are keeping it. I am having our bank send to Mr. John Allen the draft for £2. We are perfectly satisfied with the specimen.

I thought I would get some action on your manuscript the other day. The Committee was supposed to meet but did not, so we have got to get the Committee together some other time.

Have you any of the modern coins struck at Sana'a in the Yemen? I have just received a bunch of them dated from 1339 to 1350 and 2 and 4 Buksha values, corresponding to about our silver five and ten cent pieces. If you haven't any you can have some with our compliments.

Very truly yours,

HM:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

May 29th 1935.

Dear Mr Wood,

Many thanks for your letter. Mr Allan will thank you in due course when the draft arrives. I am glad you are pleased with the specimen.

Regarding the modern coins of Yemen, we have only the type of which I enclose a rubbing, & we should be very glad to have any duplication

which you may have to spare us.

With many thanks and
kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,
John Walter

rmsh. 10/11/11

June 11, 1935.

Mr. John Walker
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am herewith enclosing a number of the silver coins of the Yemen. The small pieces are called 2 bukshas. You will note on it it says a half of one-tenth. As 40 bukshas equal an issani the larger piece is a 4 buksha. The copper piece you have is a one-half buksha or one-eighth of one-tenth. There is a large copper piece inscribed one-quarter of one-tenth. There are two other silver pieces I think called roubs and nafs. They are all issued by Yahia Ibn Mohamed. These are the coins in use there today. Some of the earlier issues are quite interesting, but we have none of these in duplicate. The

The Publication Committee met the other day and have tentatively passed on your article and would be very glad to publish it. They have made one or two suggestions and that is that all of the Arabic should be translated; the reason being that few in this country have any knowledge of Arabic and they would lose a good deal if they did not know what the inscriptions meant. I have not had time to look your manuscript over again and see just how to handle this but will at the first opportunity. I think in the introduction we can simplify some of the notes, and, as you once suggested, cut out some of the Arabic. All of this I will take up later.

Do you want the manuscript back or have you a copy with you. If you haven't a copy, I will have to send yours back.

Very truly yours,

WJ:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

June 24th 1915.

Dear Mr Wood,

I have just called
in to the B.M. to-day in
the middle of a vacation to
find your letter and coins
awaiting me. Many thanks
indeed for sending them. They
will be duly acknowledged
and examined when I return
in July.

I am very glad

your Committee are willing
to consider publishing my
article. There is no need to
return the typescript as I have
a copy here. As you suggest I
can easily translate the legends
and simplify the notes. I
shall be glad to hear from
you at your earliest opportunity.

I enclose a reprint of
an article on Cyprus which
I wrote for the Encyclopedia
of Islam, which you may
care to have.

Yours sincerely,

J. Walker

July 10, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

If you have a copy of your typescript I think we can work well enough by correspondence. The proposition in general is this. As hardly a person in this country knows Arabic or Arabic history any article dealing with this subject should be laid out as for a novice or beginner. As a matter of fact this is not a bad plan for nearly every book on Mohammedan coins is pretty much above the heads of most collectors of Mohammedan coins. I know I have always had this feeling - that the various catalogues, the B.M. ones in particular, could have gone into the subject much more fully and in detail, leaving far less for granted and putting in a few, let us say, muscles of information and human interest around an otherwise bare skeleton.

Also in a few instance we have got to consider the cost from the printer's standpoint. Would it be agreeable to you if we leave out the various marks over certain letters - like the dot under the S's, H's, Kh's T's etc., and also the long marks over the A's, I's etc. in the Arabic words. The apostrophe indicating the sins naturally could stay in - in fact it should.

I will not go over page by page things I wish to call attention to. On page 1 of the Introduction fourth line - I have added the Christian year to the Mohammedan year. This might be as well in other places that I may have overlooked.

On page 2, I have added a fuller title to Zambaur's Manual.

Page 3, Caliph's name on the last coin mentioned year 282 you gave as al Mu'tamid I have corrected this to al Mu'tadid. I checked this up both by our coin and Vasmer - also the date,

Under each name such as Ya'kub b. al-~~laith~~ the committee

John Walker - 2

July 10, 1935.

thought it well to put the Arabic equivalent. It will be necessary to indicate all these. I could in most cases do this myself but I would rather have you do it. Therefore, if you could write these out in long columns I can copy them on my manuscript.

They also made the suggestion, especially part, to put under each Arabic formula quotations from the Koran etc. the English translation. This I would prefer to have you do. This naturally would be only in the first instance which occurs. With the date this might be done only once under coin No. 3.

Please go carefully through all the footnotes; in case you want to add any you can, because we will number these consecutively when we send to the printer. The Arabic in footnote on page 3 might be left out. Also if you are planning to add anything further in the parenthesis you right to it now, such as you will see in two instances on page 5. The Arabic word Subkari as well as other instances of personal names would be well to leave in. On page 6 where you mention the Samanids for the first time I think it might be well to work in a few words about this dynasty. The word Mukhkajj in Arabic could be omitted. At the foot of the page the long note in Arabic would not hold much value for our readers and could either be left out or translated.

Page 9 - second line, use your discretion on whether to leave the Arabic or put in a literal translation.

Page 10 - thirteenth line, with the word kunya I think it would be well to put in parenthesis surname or whatever word you want to use. Please fill in all the parentheses you see on page 12 and other pages.

On page 4 of the catalogue don't forget we are illustrating the badly clipped coin 8(a), therefore make some mention of this in your text under 10.

I was wondering whether it would not be just as well to put in a paragraph in the proper place concerning the placing of the name of the Caliph, Over-Lords etc. on the different coins. You and I know it but it probably took us some time to understand why it was done. I think this covers about everything.

If it will be easier for you to do these changes on your manuscript and send it over or make these changes in a form so I can incorporate them on the manuscript here I leave to your judgment. Of course we are anxious to have the manuscript in as really complete form as possible, so as to keep down the charge for author's corrections.

I am changing over your six plates into eight plates, as you laid them out just a little too large and I think they look better not quite so crowded. I expect to be away quite largely during the month of August, so you do not have to rush through all of this on receipt of my letter.

Very truly yours,

July 10, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I read with interest your little account of Iuri for the Encyclopedia of Islam. I appreciate the amount of looking up involved in such an account. I have just received the last two numbers of the Chronicle and have read several of the articles with interest. I note Allan has got two of the coins on plate III mixed, that is 7 and 9. Also on page 40 he lists a number 8 which is not illustrated. We happen to have a nice specimen of the Firuz Shah b. Abu Bakr which I had among the regular Firuz coins. I also read with interest your article on the Sassanian type coins. Our Atiya coin is undoubtedly of the year 72. You

You might tell Mr. Allan that in case he doesn't know it Robert J. Widlitz died on May 18th.

Very truly yours,

HM:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

Aug. 2nd 1935.

Dear Mr Wood

Many thanks for your letter of the 10th ult. I have passed on your notes to Allen about his article, and about the death of Lillie.

I have now gone over my copy of the type-script, and am sending it to you with alterations and additions and translations as you requested. But I can safely leave the matter entirely in your

capable hands, if you will be
so kind as to spare me the
trouble

If the dots under H. Kh. etc
are to be omitted, would it not be
desirable to mention the fact in
a footnote. I enclose a specimen
of the sort of thing I mean, and
leave it to you to decide for
or against its insertion. The
same applies to other additions
I have made, e.g. a sketch
map, a list of Akhaid taliphs
with dates, and illustration of the
epigraphy of the Kuran quotations on
coins nos 23, 24, 30, 50, 51, 52, & 53.
You might be able to allow me
a block for this last. But, as I

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

2

fully realize, the question of
expense must be considered.

I have made all the
alterations, I think, that you asked
for. I am very obliged to you
for noting the mistake in the
Catharine name. I have added the
date in A.D. wherever possible.
You will find the list of Governors
names written in Arabic as you
wanted. I think too, that it
would be better to put ibn instead
of l. in every case, if I have
not done so.

I am glad you are able

to allow me eight plates
as they were rather crumpled

I hope you will not have
too much worry and trouble about
arranging the MS.

With sincerest thanks and
good wishes.

Yours very truly,
John Walker

August 21, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am up from the country for a few days and have looked over your manuscript. I think you have fixed it up in good shape. When I get back on the job in a couple of weeks I will steer it through the press. Concerning the dots and dashes over letters the footnote you have written is to the point.

As for the map I will have to take this up with the powers that be. The plate showing the epigraphy I think can go in all right. I see no reason why not.

We generally correct the proof three times. I think it will be best if I send the second galley proof to you - I will look after the first and the page proof.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

Sept. 5th 1935.

Dear Mr Wood,

I have just got back
from a holiday to find your
welcome letter. It is good to
learn that you will be able
to supervise the publishing
of the M.B. and that you think
my notes sufficiently clear.
If you could manage to have
the map inserted, it would
be very desirable, but of
course I understand that

impossible it is to have everything

Prof. Mayer of Jerusalem
is contemplating publishing an
annual bibliography of Islamic
literature. and has asked me
to do the numismatics section.

So if you should have any
rather out of the way articles
come your way "that I am
not likely to see, I should ap-
preciate any assistance you
should give me by passing
them on to me. Only Islamic
excluding Indian (which is
already covered.

By the way I have been

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

2

recently examining a large hoard
hoard of coins from Kilwa.
I could manage to procure
you a set if you do not
already possess examples. The
pieces so far are:

Hi ibn al Hasan
Da'ud ibn al Hasan
Sulaiman ibn al Hasan.
Da'ud ibn Sulaiman
Hasan ibn Sulaiman.

That is more than Zambar
gives.

Let me know if you wish

to have any, and I am sure
the owner will gladly present
specimens. The dynasties does
not agree with the history
of Kilwa (published by Stimpf).
I hope to write a note on them
some day in the Museum.

I trust you have had
a good holiday, and are feeling
fit for another spell of work.

Kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,
C. Walker.

September 6, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I have as yet not had time to give your manuscript to the printer but will do this shortly. However, in the meantime we have had the illustrations of your article made and I am sending you the first proof which you need not return. The finished results, I think, will be a little better. I beg to remain in the meantime

Very sincerely yours,

HJ:JC

Curator

September 17, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am still tackling your manuscript getting it lined up for the printer.

Here I first thought I could show obverse and reverse in parallel columns I am afraid I will have to put one above the other on account of the narrowness of our page.

Unfortunately the day Prof. Mayer was here I was away. Mr. Newell happened to be in and showed him what we had in the way of Malinke coins, which although extensive had no great rarities as far as I know. I will remember to let you know of any out of the way articles on Mohammedan coins. I would very much like to get any of the coins from Kilwa that you can obtain. I have about a dozen copper, all of which are in frightfully worn and corroded condition. Will photograph them for you sometime. I think I once tried to check up with Zambaur the names on the pieces. There are, if I remember right, two or three different Kilwas in East Africa. Will write you again later.

Very truly yours,

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Sept 24th 1935.

Dear Mr Wood,

I am sending you
some of the "Kilua" coins. The coins
from another hoard, which are of a
different family, I shall send
you later when I finish sorting
them. The present ones are of

(1) al Hasan ibn Ahmad, and

(2) Ishak ibn al-Hasan, the latter

being in the majority. They are never
in good condition, so please do

what you care about them. They

are presented by J. S. Last, Esq.
at the suggestion of M^r Frederic Kieffel
of the Carnegie Corporation.

I trust my manuscript is
not giving you too much trouble.
It is extremely kind of you to
put yourself about over it.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely
D. Waller

September 27, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Our last two letters crossed and since writing my letter I have received the Emanuele and note that you have described some coins from Jerash. I have just sent over a few coins from Jerash including the Byzantine one with the two figures. I note you omitted to include the inscription each side of the H. which I made out as Philistine. I wish to thank you for the two Sistan coins - I am very pleased to get these. I will incorporate the two additions you included as I have not sent the manuscript to the printer as I am still working over the catalogue part so as to adopt it to our small form.

Unfortunately Yale did not send up any of the Byzantine coins from Jerash so I do not know just how many of that new Byzantine mint they may have.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.

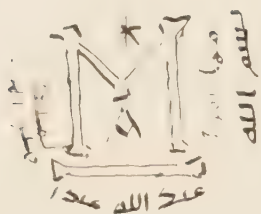


Oct. 4th 1935.

Dear Mr Wood,

I am very glad to have the casts of the coins from Jerusalem which you sent. This morning I received your second letter. By the way if you look again at my article you will find that the reading of the word on the l. of the M is *shol* which is part of *Ahd al-Malik's* name. Perhaps I did not illustrate my reading clearly

enough. It is like this



The legend is curiously divided. I have not drawn the above very accurately but it will no doubt be sufficient to explain what I mean.

The other Umayyad coin with the new legend I am unable to read as yet. Perhaps an idea will strike me some day.

The coin is similar to one we have. We have another one with the lion facing r. As you say it appears to be of the same mint as your coin. You attributed it

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LONDON, W.C.1.

2



to Tabariya because
of the remains of the mint
name ~~Tabariya~~ as I think
that is very probable. But
~~unless~~ ~~until~~ a clearer reading turns
up I shall catalogue it
under ~~unaiyad~~ mint (probably
Tiberias) in my catalogue.

The other Unaiyad mint name
~~unaiyad~~ eludes me.

The large ~~£~~ coins seem
to have the name of Saladin
and are dated 578 although

in the more corrupt specimen
it appears as 598. The
the mint is puzzling. of the
coin as the CV of Haraden.

Numismata Orientalia.

I have seen specimens of
the others (wave and foal type)
but cannot attribute them at
the moment.

If I come across any
further information I shall let
you know.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely.

W. V. Ball

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Oct. 11th 1935.

My dear Wood,
Many thanks for
your interesting letter and the
enclosures. So far we have nothing
like the tax on purchases in
this country, although it has
been proposed.

Judging from the photos
of the Kilua coins, you do not
seem to have any bearing the
names of David ibn Sulaiman

2 Sand ibn Hasan. I shall
manage to send you specimens of
these in due course, and I have
frankly, sorting the hoard, which
is a very long process.

Do you want me to return
the photos?

I am afraid I know nothing
about Kilwa stamps. I gave up
collecting them (~~stamps~~ I mean)
many years ago.

We have recently added
to the collection two new coins
of the Wajidid Dynasty of Oman.
(cf. Zamboni p. 127).

(1) A2 328 Yusuf ibn Wajid
Muhammad ibn Yusuf

(2) A2 333 Muhammad ibn Yusuf.

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BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



2

No. (1) is new and unique
(not in Jahans) while no (2) is
only known in Mask. p. 342

There seems to be little known
in the standard histories of the
Wajihids, so I must scout around
and try and recover them

Have you any?

Many thanks for arranging
to have the map done. I do think
that it will be of some assistance.

With kindest regards
Yours, sincerely,

Walter

October 16, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins & Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter of the 4th at hand and I accept your reading of the Byzantine type coins with the two figures. It was absolute dumbness on my part to have read these as I did. The edge inscription was much obliterated on the two pieces I examined and I saw they were the ordinary formulas and did not stop to make out every word. I simply looked where the mint should be and it looked fairly clearly Filistin. If you are stuck over the other two I do not feel so badly not being able to read them myself. On those three large coins I should judge the name of Saladin was there as overlord. It really is rather strange that we should have gotten three of these at three different times and as far as I know in odd lots either from sales or brought in over the counter. At any rate we have no clue as to where they came from.

We may shortly get the girl back who was with us certain days last winter making casts for us. This was the young lady who dropped in at the coin room one day and wanted to smoke! It is going to be at times hard to keep her busy - therefore if you can think of any series you would like casts of let me know so I can keep her at work at odd moments.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Oct. 25th 1935

My dear Wood

Many thanks for
your letter of the 16th and your
kind offer to let me have
casts of some of your coins.
I shall certainly avail myself
of the opportunity. Your Arab-
Sasanian coins would interest me
most at present, and also the
Arab Governors of Tabaristan. I
do not want the ones with a coin
without any Arabic inscription, as
I am not proposing to consider

them in that order.

I have just finished
the two lists. Board A
the 301 items, and Board B. 1278
Out of the 25 I have now made
9 rules, i.e. 6 more than in Zamboni

- (1) al-Hasan ibn Talut.
- (2) Sulaiman ibn Husain.
- (3) Daud ibn Hasan.
- (4) Daud ibn Sulaiman.
- (5) Sulaiman ibn Hasan.
- (6) Ali ibn Hasan.
- (7) Hasan ibn Sulaiman.
- (8) Ishak ibn Hasan.
- (9) Husain ibn Ahmad.

I hope to publish them, soon
in the num. list. I shall endeavour
to find you specimens of most of them
but unfortunately the examples of
Hasan ibn Talut and Sulaiman ibn
Husain are limited to 3 and 7
respectively and the owner wants

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LONDON, W.C.1.



2

Along with Hoard A were
three coins of the Mongols, Persians
one of Hulagu and two of Muhammad
Khan (1336-1337). With Hoard B
(i.e. coins of Shah and Husam)
there were two coins which I cannot
place. I enclose rubbings in the
hope that you may recognize them.
I make out a name like Abū'l
Khurāsānji. I shall be glad if
you can throw any light on them.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(W. A. R. Wood)

November 15, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Dept. of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

My dear Walker:

I rather think I owe you several letters but have been especially busy of late working up a lecture, going over a manuscript and putting up a fine collection of Greek and Roman coins from the estate of F. Munroe Endicott.

I had trouble finding a printer for your manuscript but placed it about ten days ago and I am expecting every day to receive some sample set-ups. How many copies of this monograph do you want? We give the author up to fifty.

I do not remember whether I sent you the reprint from my article in the Chronicle - at any rate you might as well have one. Did I thank you for the Kilwa coins you sent me. If not - many thanks. Do not return the photographs - in fact whenever I do send you photographs they are for you to keep unless I state otherwise at the time. I have never had any Omani coins except the fairly recent copper pieces which everybody has. We have quite a lot of these. I am inclined to think there is an awful lot we do not know about coins from Southern Arabia. There seems to be several Kilwas in Africa - I suppose the one the coins come from is on the coast about 150 miles south of Dar-Es-Salaam. I will be sending you in a little while casts of both ours and Nevell's Arab Sassanian and Tabaristan coins. I will use these as space-fillers to keep Miss Sime busy. If later on you think of any others you want let me know because sometimes we are hard pressed to find enough for her to do. Things come in fits and starts - either a feast or a famine.

I have two large bunches of Oriental coins to look through but do not seem to find the time to put on them, as my work here calls for a jack of all trades, as I virtually have to look after everything concerning building, etc. So far I have not been able to place either of the coins you sent rubbings of. I will keep the sheet on my desk and see what I eventually can do but I much doubt if I can help you out.

Very truly yours,

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Nov. 22nd 1935.

My dear Wood,

Many thanks for your
letter of the 13th and for the off-
print of your interesting little
article.

I am very busy
working at the Kilwa coins.

There is a lot to be found
out about them, and it ought
to provide an interesting story.

The capital of the Kilwa
dynasty was at Kilwa
Kisiwani about 200 miles south

May 11th.

When you have finished the
carto of the Mah. Farman &
Tahmaspian coins, I should
like some of the Umayyad and
Abbasid ones; but I shall give
you the numbers from your
photographs, which you so
kindly sent me some time ago.
The carto will be much appreciated.

When the monograph is finished I should like as many copies as you can let me have, as I have a lot of people to send them to. I hope you are not finding it too troublesome to pilot, with all your other work.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely,

(1) *Valley*

November 22, 1935.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am sending you herewith a couple of casts, one of a copper coin from Jerash which puzzles me. I think it is Arawee. Possibly you may have one and at any rate if it is Arawee you might like to have the cast. If you can throw any light on it I would be glad to have you. The other cast is of a Henry IV heavy noble, or that is what we think it is. A woman brought it into us the other day saying she bought it in France for Henry VI noble and sold it to us as such. We paid her \$15.00. Later when we were looking it up to put away we could only reconcile it as a Henry IV noble, that is apparently worth £50. As it is a rather good piece and apparently is rare we thought your coin department might like to have a cast of it. I am expecting any day to hear something from the printer.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

December 9, 1935.

Mr. John Walker,
Dept. of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

My dear Walker:

Your book Bible Characters in the Koran reached me this morning and I know I will read this with much interest. I have been having trouble with the catalogue end of your booklet and there is a momentary delay on it as parts of it I will have to rewrite so as to save expense with the compositor. As you laid it out for a much bigger format I thought by indicating in pencil the shifts where the reverse was to be under the obverse rather than alongside and various other things I could get by but the compositor got sadly muddled. I am enclosing a couple of sample pages that I have just had set up or rather what the printer has just sent me as I gave him the manuscript some time ago. The printer that is tackling this has only one side of Arabic.

Our girl is now working on the casts of the Arab, Sassanian and Tabaristan coins, both Mr. Nowell's and ours, and I will send them over to you when done and unless something intervenes will get at the Umayyid coins when you send them over. We can let you have fifty copies of your monograph.

Very truly yours,

W:JG

Curator



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,
LONDON: W.C.

Feb. 18th 1936.

My dear Wood,

Many thanks for sending
me the rubbings of those interesting coins
from Beisan. I am afraid I can make
no more out of them than you have already
done. The name below the M may be
أبو خالد Abū Khālid, as it looks somewhat
like that on no 4. (Beisan)

The legend أمر عبد الله - بالوفا is
quite possible and interesting since one would expect
أمر الله - بالوفا. It was Mish (in the form of your table)

of coins of Ray. 694. all 501

that obtained honesty (in weights and measures)

A parallel case is in the recently published

weight, Hayyaj ibn Yusuf (Cham. Chron. 1936 p. 246)

الوزن والقياس

Your reading Tikerin (تِكْرِين) in the

the coin is almost certainly correct, and

the date 110 is about the period. I should

like very much to see these coins published.

as I shall have to refer to them in my

book. We have nothing like ANS. 13 and Beiran

3 & 4. We have two lion coins but with VI VI VI V

different from
your 110

around only. In one case the lion is facing left

in the other it is facing right. It must

belong to the same mint as yours

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely
J. Walker

March 10, 1936.

John Walker, Esq.
Department of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Walker:

I have just sent back to the printer page proof of your article so it will not be long now before the thing is off the press. Where do you want the 50 copies sent - to your home or to the museum.

The young lady who is making the casts for us has been laid up for the past two weeks so please pardon the delay in sending you the casts of Arab-Berberian coins. I have gotten out all of the Umayyad coins and will get these to you as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

HM:JG

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

March 18th 1936.

My dear Wood,

Many thanks for your
letter and the news of the article.
It would be most convenient
if you sent the copies to me
at the Museum.

I am very busy
these days trying to work at my
Catalogue and also attend to
the business of the forthcoming
Congress. I am sorry there are
so few representatives as far

from your side. We have
now got 217 books, so it
looks as if we were going to
have a quite good Conference.
The Government has agreed
to give the delegates a
reception.

As I am concentrating
for the present on the Arab-
Samaritan I shall be very glad
to have your cards at your
earliest convenience. They will
be of great assistance.

By the way have you
already published, or do you
intend to publish, that very
remarkable specimen of yours

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



2

LONDON, W.C.1.

reading

امير المؤمنين
نظر
الله
حسب الله

If not, may I be allowed to
include it in my catalogue?

With all good wishes

Yours sincerely
J. Walker

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



May I have cards please
of the following Unaired coins?

13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 69, 70, 81, 85, 90

¹⁰⁴
72, 110, 130, 131, 132, 137, 138, 142

144, 145, 149, 155.

March 27, 1936.

Mr. John Walker
Dept. of Coins and Medals
The British Museum
London, England.

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter of the 18th just at hand and I was packing up the casts at the time. I have sent them by parcel post insured this morning and trust you will get them without any undue delay. This includes all of Mr. Newell's and our Sassanian and Taberistan pieces. I have marked on the back which collection they belong to. Also I inclosed the Amree casts that you wanted.

I would like to go over to the Congress but see no chance. Mrs. Brett will be there and has our credentials as our delegate. I am also sending my daughter, Sylvia, yet to join the Breits and in due course somewhere about the end of June or into July they will all blow into the B. M.

The coin you asked permission to publish belongs to Mr. Newell and I have just spoken to him and he says that you are perfectly at liberty to publish it as well as any of his coins and our coins.

Sincerely yours,

HW:JG

Curator

April 1, 1936

Mr. John Walker,
Department of Coins and Metals,
British Museum,
London W.C.1, ENGLAND

Dear Mr. Walker:

I am having sent to you 50 monographs of your
Sistan article.

I note two minor errors in the finished product.
On page 28 they dropped out (sic) between 100 and 200 in
the date. It was there on the last proof. On page 40,
Coin 27, they have a corn instead of a stool in front of
the K. This I told them to correct but it must have got
by them.

By this time you should have received the casts
sent several days ago.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

max 27 2000
Apr. 1 books

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



April 9th 1936.

Dear Sir,

I received the 50 Sestertii
safely to-day, just as I am
on the point of going off for the
last vacation. They seem very
good indeed — thanks to your great
care.

So far the carts have not
arrived. I was waiting till they
came before answering your pre-
vious letter of the 27th March. No
doubt they will be here by the time

I return.

We have no records here of the date when the counterstamp you mention was last used. I think from the specimens we have that it must be 1816. That was the year I understand when the Bank ceased to issue their dollars.

I am sorry you are unable to attend the Congress, but perhaps your daughter will act as proxy.

The Congress business is very exacting for Matthews and myself.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely,

Walker

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

April 17^a 1936.

My dear Wood,

Just a note to
tell you that the casts arrived
here to-day all safe. They
are a fine lot and will be
of great service to me.

Many thanks.

Kindest regards

Yours sincerely

Walker-

June 10, 1936

John Walker, Esq.
British Museum,
London, England

Dear Walker:

I have read with much interest your account of the Coinage of the Sultans of Milwa and I wish to compliment you on the erudition manifest in this article. Also, I appreciate the amount of time and labor you have given to this. Also I want to praise you for the way you have handled the catalogue part, giving the translations and explaining everything in detail. I am rather keen on this phase of things myself because when I stated ~~an~~ I was up against it in knowing what the cataloguers were driving at. As I wrote you at the time of the Sistan monograph, most Orientalists gaze over the heads of the average collector.

I think I wrote you my daughter Sylvia will be with the Bretts in London during July and August. You will undoubtedly see Mrs. Brett and I told Sylvia when the conference was over to drop in to the B.M. and say how-do-you-do to you.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



June 18th 1936.

My dear Wood,

It was very kind of
you to write such a charming
letter of appreciation. When I receive
the offprints I shall send you
one. There are very few able to
understand as you do the difficulties
of oriental coins, and I value
your opinion very much.

In case you would
care to have a list of the

-papers for Gaynes I am
sending you one.

I shall very much
like to meet your daughter
when she comes to London.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely
John Lubbock

July 16, 1936

John Walker, Esq.,
Department of Coins and Medals,
British Museum,
London, W.C.1, ENGLAND

My dear Walker:

I am sending under separate cover two numbers of the Coin Collector's Journal that has an article on the coins of Ethiopia which I wrote for the magazine in somewhat of a hurry and would go under the heading of a potboiler rather than a scholarly article. Nevertheless I think there is information therein that one would find it hard to get. If things do not come out one way or another they as a rule do not come out at all, so one should be grateful to get anything new in numismatics, provided it is not full of errors.

I trust by this time you have met my daughter Sylvia. I told her to drop around to the B.M. and say how-do-you-do. She is, as you may know, with the Bretts.

I trust the Congress was all the success it should be and that the work you put into it has reaped its reward.

Your offprints of the Mafia coins came the other day. Many thanks.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



July 31st 1936.

My dear Wood,

Many thanks for
your letter and the copies of
your articles on ~~the~~ Coinage of
Ethiopia. I am very glad
indeed to have these. In fact
a few days previously I had
mentioned them to Prof Macalister
and asked him whether he could
procure me copies.

Your articles are so
thorough and concise that I had

always, pleased to have them at hand
for reference.]

Your daughter called one
day with the Bretts, and I was
very pleased to see her. I am
sorry you were not able to come
over yourself. The Congress was
very successful (about 310 members)
I am glad my part of the work
is nearly over.

With kindest regards

Yours, sincerely
John Wallcut

March 23, 1937

John Walker, Esq.,
British Museum,
London, England

Dear Mr. Walker:

Quoting Edward VIII in his Farewell address, I will say at long last I am writing to you. All of the past winter I have been extremely busy, chiefly in editing, and in January my assistant dropped dead.

I am getting together material for a catalogue of the coins of the 20th Century, something badly needed, and in which the recent book by Comacini, to my mind, failed utterly. Probably I will not do much better but I am planning to give it a try.

Before landing on this, I am enclosing a photograph of an Amawee coin with the 7 branch candlestick, only this is five, which is in rather good shape and might be an improvement on yours.

I am enclosing on separate sheets a few questions which I trust you can answer. One is concerning the Mint mark used on the ground under St. George on the British sovereigns struck at the branch mints. Also, questions on some southern Arabian coins. I will probably bombard you now and then with other questions but this will do for today.

I should write Mr. Allan, complimenting him on his catalogue of Indian coins. As yet I have done nothing more than glance at it. This glance, however, shows me the immense amount of work he must have put into this subject. After a little more digestion I am going to drop him a line. Also, Nelson Wright's book is long since at hand but I have not had a chance as yet to tackle it.

Very truly yours,

HW KS
encl.

Curator

LONDON: W.C.

April 1st 1937.

My dear Wood,

My dear Wood,
Many thanks for your letter and
the enclosed photo of the Umayyad coin. It is some-
what better than ours although with the same number
of branches on the ~~reverse~~ ^{obverse}.
I am interested work on 20th Century

branches on the continent.
Your projected work on 20th Century
coins sounds desirable but I expect you will
find it very laborious. I wish you every
success with the undertaking. You can
be sure that my colleagues and I will
be delighted to assist you in any way
we can.

I shall try to answer your

Spacia nov.

I Monuments in Surinam.

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Canada | C. |
| Melbourne | M. |
| Perth | P |
| Pretoria | SA. |
| Sydney | S. |

Yr Bunkay reach me in 1918 with
much work. I.

II

Besides the coins ^{from Terim} which you draw and which
are dealt with by Bucknell we have
a set presented to us by the Birmingham
Mint of which I ~~enclose~~ ^{give} a rubbing.



The date 1344 = 1925 and the denomination
which we have are 60 (as above) 45, 30,
~~25~~, 15, 8. So I presume they are the
coins minted in 1926-27 and predated.
However, we do not have the complete
set. They are attributed to Terim
in our cabinet but I have no con-
firmation of this.



2
DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,
LONDON: W.C.

I have no knowledge of the coin
said to have been struck by the
independent Arabs in 1916.

It is a great pity that accurate
information of such recent issues should
be so difficult to obtain; but people
will not make records at the time and
soon all memory of the events are
lost. Perhaps you will find
further information in the Catalogue
issued by Heston some years ago.
We have not got a copy in the Dept.
Let me know if you do.

With kindest wishes,

Yours sincerely
Walter

April 22, 1937

John Walker, Esq.,
British Museum,
London, England

My dear Walker:

Many thanks for your letter of April 1st. This gave me what I want. I am now going to bother you for a little more information.

I note in the British Mint Report that the Calcutta Mint struck for Alwur some rupees in 1901 but I can find no other mention of these pieces. Presumably they had the head of Victoria but what I was wondering was whether they bear the date of 1901 or the date of the last previous ones minted.

Also, I note that the Paris Mint struck 5 and 10 centime pieces for the Comoro Islands in 1901. Do you happen to have any specimens showing this date? All we have are of the previous date.

The Calcutta Mint struck for Bhutan half rupees in 1929 and 30. If you have a specimen of this I would like to get a rubbing now and also a plaster cast but as there may be other plaster casts I might want later, this cast could hold. Also, I was wondering if there was any difference in the dates of the two years. I am enclosing a photograph of a copper piece that I presume is for Bhutan and was struck in 1931. Also, on this same photograph is the coin for Nepal. I was wondering if there were any other denominations of this style.

Do you know of any collector in England who specializes in recent coins and especially British Colonials, because I may like to call upon them, especially as regards Mint marks.

If I do not get in this letter I will send shortly photographs of our Afghanistan coins. I was wondering if you could check these over, supply missing dates that you might have and missing denominations, or any different types that I do not include. I know absolutely I am shy of a few of the more recent ones.

I find that we do not have a copy of the catalogue issued by Eaton. I am having our Librarian write direct and see if we can get a copy.

Very truly yours,

HW ks

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,



LONDON, W.C.1.

~~April~~
May 1st 1937.

My dear Word,

Four species are indeed
poor.

① Almar. Our latest date in the trays
is 1891 (1891).

② Comoro Islands. Our ~~last~~ only dated ^{is} ~~are~~
1308 (1890)

③ Bhutan. So far we have not received
any from the Baluchistan mint and we usually
get all ~~the~~ mint.

We have nothing like either of your coins
of Nepal or Bhutan (in photograph)
I am inclined to regard the latter
as Tibetan.

- (4) English collection of modern coins and British Colonial are few. I know of
- (a) Mr Henry Garvie, 46 Queen's Road Teddington, Middlesex (who is likely to help you)
 - (b) Mr H. W. Taffs, 27 Elderslie Rd. Eltham, S.E. 9. (Secretary of the British Num. Soc)
 - (c) Mr J. B. Caldecott, Amberley, Arundel, Sussex.

But perhaps if you wrote to Baldwin the coin dealer (3 Robert St. Adelphi, W.C. 2) he might be able to give you more names. This late father collected such things and must have had a very good collection.

- (5) Our Afghan collection is not sufficiently representative. But we have the following: -

(see page)

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



2

Afghanistan Hakikullah
5 rupees. 1322 The legends are
similar to the 1324 rupee

We have 1330
1 rupee 1324, 1334 (like your 1330)

$\frac{1}{8}$ rupee (silver) 1331

Æ Kandahar 1333 (2 specimens: different ^{die})

Amman

Eda 2 Amman. (1 state it is ^{value})

1298 (other year)

1 Amman (value denoted by star)

1337.

1 Amman 1304 year 7. (like your)

$\frac{1}{2}$ amman (inscribed on higher side
with date 1299) and ^{value} on
other side

Silver.

½ Afghani. 1304. (yr. 7) 1305 (yr. 8)

½ rupee. 1337 (2 die var.)

Copper. 1 mpr. (date not visible)
Like your type with wreath
outside circle.

Bacha Sakas.

1 rupee 1347.

1 Kuran 1347.

20 paras 1347.

The silver and the gold are apparently
minted at Kabul.

Do you want me to return
the photos. If possible I should like
to keep them as they will be very
useful for reference.

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



3

The strange piece you
also send heris me. I can only
suggest Socotro. سوقتر

as the name of Abd al-Kuri. (?)

The legend on the r. of the Tughra
seems to be al-A'zam al-Afdal

الاسم
الافضل

The Royal Mint officials here
would no doubt be able to give you
information about some of the difficult
points about modern coins.

I have just written a short note
on the ~~image~~ of the Dimer of Dimer
for Sudan Notes & Records just out.
Since then Mr. Arkell & el-Fasher
has communicated many more
varieties which supplement and correct
my little effort. He hopes to publish
his treatment some time after we
have had some of the coins analyzed.
He will no doubt be willing to
let you have some specimens.

(Sudan Notes do not give opinions
apart from those I cannot let you
see the results)

I am going I expect in
October November to Istanbul
Damascus Jerusalem & Cairo.
So I should be ^{very} interested in this.

Kindest regards

Yours sincerely,
John Walker

John Walker, Esq.,
British Museum,
London, England

May 17, 1937

Dear Mr. Walker:

Many thanks for your letter of May 1st. I think the copper piece I sent you is for Bhutan, although it does look as though it had a Tibetan Lama on it. It came from India as Bhutan by a traveller who was of enough importance to have a number of things presented to him.

Many thanks for the names of Garside, Taffs and Caldecott. I have never met Garside and I did not know whether he was alive or dead. The other two I have met and probably I will call upon them later.

Thanks, too, for the notes on the Afghan coins. Keep the photographs. I want for you to do so if you wished.

I suppose one of the best collections of modern coins is in the French Mint and I may write them also later.

I am anxious to get your article on Ali Dinar of Darfur and will write to the Sudan Government at the Wellington House as I understand they sell these notes.

I do not know the Mr. Arkell you mention who has a number of new specimens you did not mention. We have none of these and I was wondering if you could drop me a line and see if he can let us have some. If you do not want to, can you give us his full name and address and I will write.

Two or three years ago I was in communication with someone but too late because he said he had given the few pieces he had to the B.M.

I trust you will have an enjoyable and interesting time in the N. and will add materially to your collection.

Do you know if Iraq has issued any new coins with the head of II Ghazi? If you have them, can you give me a rubbing of one with the different denominations and metals,

Very truly yours,

HW ks

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



May 27/37.

Dear Husband Wood,
Many thanks for
your letter of May 17th and for
permission to keep the photos of
Afghan coins. Did you see the
strange coins in Blenkinsop's
recent Sale Catalogue? What
do you think? No. 166.

At present Mr Arkell
is in England on furlough
The English address is:

Dr. H. B. Brown 74-1

A. J. Arkell, Esq, M.B.E.
10 Northam Road.
Oxford.

Otherwise Dargus will find
him.

The new Draki coins
have so far not been
issued to us by the Mint.
When we get them I shall
send you a rubbing.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,
John Walker

June 10, 1937

Mr. John Walker,
British Museum,
London, England

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter just at hand and I noticed Coin No. 166 in Glendining's Catalogue. There were several others I was much interested in. I however sent no bids for these as I concentrated my bids on two or three of the Mexican gold pieces. Probably No. 166 is a coin, although it may equally well be a medal. You never can tell with these fellows whether their pieces are always coins or something else. I, however, do not see any mint name on it. Most of the inscription seems to imply that it is a coin. I never saw anything like it of Dost Mohammad before.

I really was as much beguiled by No. 167. No. 1 I put down as a fake.

I have written Mr. Arkell and hope I will get some results.

Did I ever ask you if you have a silver 25¢ piece made about 1925 for British North Borneo? I saw it in the Mint Report but I never have seen one. If you have a specimen, would you mind making me a rubbing of it? I presume it is of the same type as the copper and the nickel.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

July 21, 1937

John Walker, Esq.,
Department of Coins and Medals,
The British Museum,
London, England

Dear Walker:

I have been rather mixed up on the dates on some of the recent Nepal coins. Evidently they are using a new era. Also, they are using two different forms of writing for their dates. I have copied these from two coins, both of which I take to be 1686. Could this be the revival of the Chedi or Kalachuri Samvat which was started in A.D.249? If so, I would make the dates 1935.

I have been working on the modern Egyptian coins and checking them with the Mint Reports. I find that nickel 1 Piastre pieces were struck in Birmingham, two million in 1915 and 500,000 in 1916, and also 10 millieme pieces, 1 million in 1916 and another million in 1917. I take it that the 1 Piastres were the old type of Mohammad V and are dated 1327-6, and the ten millieme pieces to be of the holed type of Husein Kamal. These were struck in Birmingham and Bombay. The Mint reports state that smaller nickel pieces of all denominations were struck from 1918 to 21 at Birmingham and King's Norton. I have never found any nickel with these dates, or any of the holed nickel in the name of Fuad. There I take it that the pieces struck between 1918 and 21 are the Husein pieces bearing the date 1917, which is very common. Also, I have some with the King's Norton Mint Mark, and they apparently did not strike any pieces until after Husein's death. The same remarks apply to the five millieme pieces. If by any chance you have any of Fuad's nickel, issued before the head type, I wish you would send me a rubbing.

I am enclosing a photograph and a rubbing of two Mawee coins recently acquired. These you might like to have for your notes.

I forget whether I sent you a reprint of the Coinage of Ethiopia, which is a potboiler which I got out for the Coin Collectors Journal. Whether I did or didn't, I am mailing you a copy under separate cover.

Please remember me to Mr. Allen, and believe me

Yours very sincerely,

Curator

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



July 10th 1937.

My dear Wood,

Many thanks for your
reprint of Ethiopian coins. You did
send the previous ones which I put
in the Dept. Library.

Yes the 1 Pt. pieces for
Egypt (nickel) seem to have been
Muhammad V (1327-6) and
Hussein Kamil (holed)

We have no holed coins of Fuad.

We have nickel of Kamil (holed)
dated 1916 (1910) 10, 5, 2 Millims.

" 1917 (1910) 10, 5, 2, and 1 "

I think your reasoning is correct
regarding the change between 1918
and 1921. I can only find
Kuzi Kutan coins under Fund.

Many thanks for the
reproduction of the Umayyad
coins.

The latest coins of Khalid
that we have are still in the
usual Samsat era, and I
cannot find any reference to
a change of era, but your
view seems to be quite reasonable.
If I find any specific reference
to the change I shall let you know.

With best wishes from
Allan and myself.
Yours sincerely,
John Walker

August 24, 1937

Mr. John Walker,
Department of Coins and Medals,
British Museum,
London, England

My dear Walker:

I am again imposing upon you and am trying to catch up with my questions before you go away.

Would you mind looking over the list of Indian states that I am enclosing? These as you know are coins only of the 20th century. There should be a few denominations that you can easily catch that I have not included. Also, if I have left out any types, a brief description or a rubbing will do.

I wish you would see if you have any coins of the Maldive Islands of Mohammed Shams-ed-Din. I just woke up to the fact that Bokhara has been striking coins up to recent times. I am enclosing rubbings of some silver and copper pieces we have, dated 1319 and after. Have you any other dates and sizes, and by the way, do you know the names of these pieces? Also, have you any coins of Khokand or Khiva after 1319?

My last coin of Makalla is dated 1318. Have you any later dates, or have you any 20th century coins of Muscat or Lahaj?

If doing this is going to cramp you, just give it a brief look and perhaps you can spot some errors by omission easily.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.



DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON: W.C.

Sept. 1st 1937.

My dear Wood,

I am very glad to hear from you and admire your perseverance with these modern currencies. Any assistance I can give you is always yours to command. Enclosed are some rubbings and notes which may help you. We have no recent coins of Bukhara, Khokand or Khiva that would assist you. The same applies to our coins of Makalla, Muscat and Zakej. But we have coins of Shams al-Din of the Maldivian Island (see rubbings). Further:-

Hyderabad. We have

A.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ ashrofi. 1328 Charminar gate. (P)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ " 1325. " " "
 $\frac{1}{8}$ " 1325 " " "

Tank in addition to the piece you mention
we have £ 329 (1911) native workmanship piece.
(see rubbing)

Transverse we have.

to infer struck in copper (date 1886) [see rubbing]
milled edge with R.V. (R at one side
and V at other)

also R. ~~PK~~ 2 CHS. olv. conc.
and " CHS 2. " "
(no date)

also \mathbb{A}^1 CHUKRAM ONE and
" ONE CHUKRAM.

as carb eight and eight carb.

also cash 1.

Yaldres. We have also

edices. We have also
Quod ab Du. 4 Lari in copper and ^{also in} bron. (1320)
which I see you regard as = 1 Lari (four silver dies)

Shams al-Din. (see rubrics).

Johnston, Edw VII & George D. You seem to
have omitted these.

Kindest regards

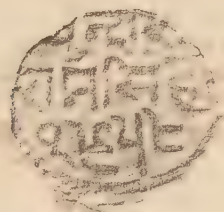
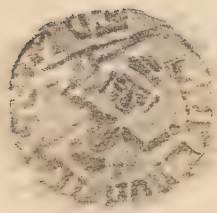
Yours sincerely

John Walker

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Muhammad Shams al-Din Iskandar
AH. 1331. all AE.



Bundi, Edward VII npee. date 1958 = 1901 AD.



CUTCH : GEORGE V AE date 1920



Tank. 1329 AH (1911 AD.)



Travancore AE (1086)

Sept. 15, 1937

John Walker, Esquire,
Dept. of Coins and Medals,
British Museum,
London, England

Dear Mr. Walker:

Your letter of September 1st was awaiting me after a week's absence. This was just the information I want and many thanks to you for it.

I think your copper quarter rupee dated 1086 is a patent. As this one was earlier than the regular issue, there is no reason for striking the piece in copper for circulation.

I do not know how I overlooked the silver 2 Chukram pieces.

Concerning the Edward and George coinage of Jodpur, I did not know of these but have located in a book of rubbings two copper pieces of Edward VII dated 1902 which I have put down as a pice and a half pice. I can find out nothing about the George V pieces. What date do they carry and are they also pice and half pice? Were there any silver ones with these two issues?

Am sorry to bother you just as you are leaving. I was wondering if you could pick up any of the very modern coins in your trip for us that you might get in change or at banks. If so, I can send you on some money if you will let me know how much and where to send it. Even if the pieces duplicate ours, I can always get rid of them at face or a little more.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Sept. 23rd 1927.

Dear Word,
Many thanks for
your letter. I enclose a
few rubbings of our gold pieces
Edward VI and George V
coins. We have no silver
Edward VI and nothing
but silver George V.

I hope to be able
to bring back for you

Some specimens of modern
currency. There is no need
to send me any money.

~~Myself~~ I hope to be
able to let you have them
for your collection.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,
John Walker.

DEPARTMENT OF COINS AND MEDALS,
BRITISH MUSEUM,

LONDON, W.C.1.



Dec. 13th 1937.

Dear Wood,

At last I have found
time to write to you and
send you the enclosed coins
which I gladly present to
the A.N.S. If you already
have them please dispose
of them as you please.

4 coins accessories
1 medal "

Kindest regard.

Yours sincerely
John Walker